

The Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program

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A Report to the 64th Legislature
October 2014

2013-2014 State-Tribal Relations Committee
Casey Barrs, Research Analyst

Photos on front cover: Sign language recording sessions at Fort Peck.

Background of front cover: Cherokee Syllabary created by Sequoyah in 1821.



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State-Tribal Relations Committee Members

Before the close of each legislative session, the House and Senate leadership appoint lawmakers to interim committees. The members of the State-Tribal Relations Committee, like most other committees of the interim, serve one 20-month term. Members who are reelected to the Legislature, subject to overall term limits and if appointed, may serve again on an interim committee. This information is included in order to comply with 2-15-155, MCA.

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Table of Contents

Background	1
Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program	3
The Vision	3
The Structure and Pilots	3
The Deliverables	6
The Performance to date	8
Appendices	
Appendix A: Senate Bill No. 342	11
Appendix B: Summary of First Quarter Pilot Reports	17
Appendix C: Summary of Second Quarter Pilot Reports	27
Appendix D: Summary of Third Quarter Pilot Reports	37
Appendix E: Summary of Fourth Quarter Pilot Reports	43

BACKGROUND

Clarena Brockie is a woman who cares deeply about her community and her people, the Aaniiih (Gros Ventre) of Fort Belknap. Ms. Brockie is also a Representative in the State Legislature of Montana. She put into words—and words are partly what this report is about—an existential threat that faces much of Indian Country and a loss that faces Montana and larger society. Testifying before the United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs this year she said:

When Christopher Columbus and other Europeans first came to Indian Country, more than 300 different languages were spoken here. Today, well less than half remain. Most of these are spoken only by a handful of elders and are in serious danger of disappearing -- in fact, all but 15 or 20 of our Native languages are spoken only by adults who are not teaching their younger generations the language. This tragic outcome is a direct result of prior U.S. government policies, including assimilation which sent many Indian children to government-run boarding schools where they were prohibited from – and often fiercely punished for – speaking their own languages, their last tie to their homelands and their very identity. This terrible legacy is made even worse when you consider that once a language becomes extinct, it takes with it much of the history, philosophy, ceremonies, culture, and environmental and scientific knowledge of the people who spoke it.¹

In a nation that celebrates the melting pot of immigrants who shed much, including their language, to establish a unique American identity, it might be hard to understand the loss. Everyone who sailed here went through a degree of assimilation. But then, Native Americans did not sail here, and the brand of assimilation they faced was not predicated on their cultures' contribution to a larger tapestry but rather on forced eradication of their cultures.

Even when *We the People* acknowledge past national policies, many citizens might still not fully appreciate the importance attached to the loss of words. Americans certainly have lost much of the flowery prose of the colonial forebears, but is that really an existential threat?

“All the unique references, all the unique humor, all the worldviews that go along with that—that might act as a conscience for a country like the United States—are slowly dying out.”²

*Richard Littlebear
President, Chief Dull Knife College
Northern Cheyenne Reservation*

Tom Raymond, an educator with the Sicangu Lakota, answers this question well. “We tend to think of language as something to be used to communicate with people. The problem with that is the Lakota language is a way of life. It’s part of a whole culture. You don’t just learn a language, you learn a way of living. It reflects back on the old ways of life, when there was a lot

¹ Testimony provided by Montana State Representative Clarena Brockie on June 18, 2014, before the United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, 113th Congress, Washington D.C.

² Laura Paskus, *More Than Words, A Way of Life*, Tribal College Journal of American Indian Higher Education, Vol. 24, No.4, Summer 2013; p. 13.

of sharing and traditional ways of living. ... I'm talking about preserving a traditional way of life that is one with the world around." He adds that once a language has disappeared, "it's not only the words that are gone—but also the culture, and a people."³

His reference to living at one with the world might have renewed meaning in a time when environmental issues such as climate change draw increasing attention. And in a state where the topics of hunger and of the "haves and have nots" are raised, including around the Capitol Building, it is fair to ask how well balanced the progress has been. The Director of the Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program is Casey Lozar. He says it was this question of "balance" (or, as his father taught him in Salish, "*as a shem*") and its connection to culture and language that brought him back to Montana to run the program.⁴



History and culture woven into language preservation activities



³ Laura Paskus, *More Than Words, A Way of Life*, Tribal College Journal of American Indian Higher Education, Vol. 24, No.4, Summer 2013; p. 15.

⁴ Casey Winn Lozar, *Tribes Capitalizing On Language Preservation Pilot Program*, The Missoulian, Guest column, May 12, 2014.

The Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program

The Vision

On May 6, 2013, Governor Bullock signed into law the Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program or “MILP3”. The outcome of Senate Bill No. 342 by State Senator Jonathan Windy Boy, this legislation was heralded throughout Indian Country. Perhaps the vision statement from the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes language and culture tribal department is fairly representative of the views held by all the resulting MILP3 pilots and warrants citing here in its entirety. It reads:

The vision of our department is to increase the language revitalization and cultural restoration with our Nakona and Dakota communities. This vision foretells our youth being embraced daily with our cultural ways of knowing, speaking our language, hearing our elder stories, hearing our creation stories, understanding and perpetuating our history, singing our traditional songs, sharing our ways of dance, living and perpetuating our seven sacred rites of Pte San Win (White Buffalo Calf Woman) and Traditional rites. Our respectful approach addresses the historical accuracy of our people’s education past and present, community-based curriculum development, language and cultural restoration, and learning strategies for the sake of our children and future generations.”⁵

These references to history and future, to the intergenerational dynamic at play—and at stake—are constant refrains heard from all those associated with this program. The program is referred to with both gratitude and urgency. The plain fact is that among all the tribes the fluent speakers are dying off. The reverence in which elders are held is paramount. The passing of each one carries the same implications as the burning of a library.

The preamble portion of Senate Bill No. 342 captures this sense of urgency and resolve, stating that:

- ✓ language in the form of spoken, written, or sign language is foundational to cultural integrity;
- ✓ Montana tribal languages are in a time of crisis through the loss of native speakers, writers, and signers; and
- ✓ the tribes and the state have resources... to preserve and protect Montana tribal languages for this and future generations.

The Structure and Pilots

Senate Bill No. 342 tasked the State-Tribal Economic Development Commission in the Montana Department of Commerce to be the administrative and rulemaking authority for the program. The Commission, and the Department at large, is the locus of considerable activity and experience in collaborating with tribal governments on economic development in Montana.

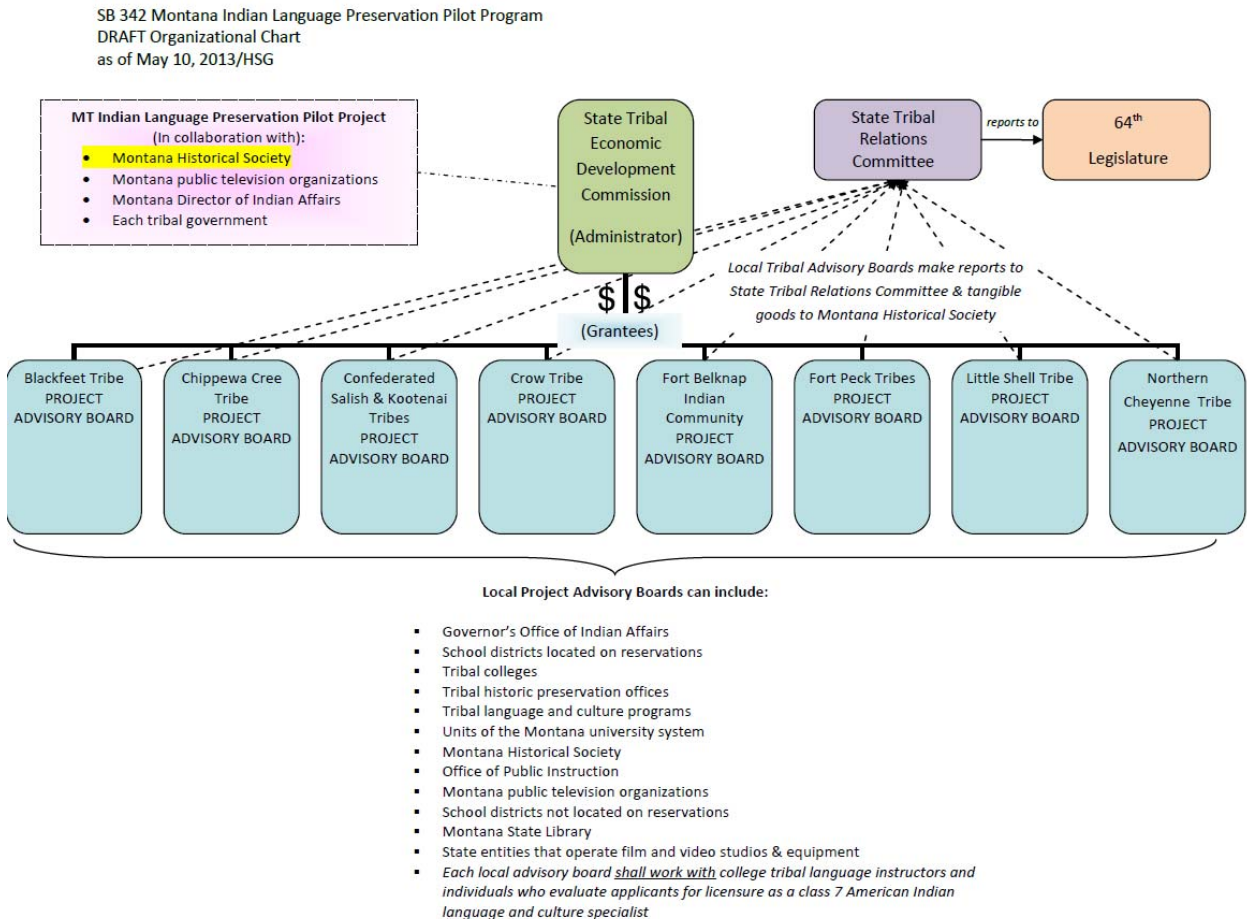
Senate Bill No. 342 required the enactment of rules to identify performance and output standards and to govern the distribution, accounting, and use of funds. The Department did

⁵ *Fort Peck Dakota and Nakoda Language Booklets*, Fort Peck Language and Culture Department, 2014; p. 13.

this on May 22, 2013, and held a hearing on the rules on June 26, 2013. During this period each tribe began to choose and assemble a local program advisory board, as was required in SB 342. In some instances more than one language is used on a reservation and the corresponding board’s membership represented that pluralism. There followed a period in which the Department drew up application guidelines, and boards identified their goals and formulated their applications and then put those applications to the Commission for an iterative process of consultation, clarification, finalization, and approval.

ARM 8.99.1004 required the use of funds for the program to be determined in coordination with collaborating partners no later than September 30, 2013. The first tranches of funding were released to the various pilots in mid-to-late November 2013. This was a few weeks before pilot staff were required to submit their first quarterly report.

Each of the pilots were required by the new law to submit their quarterly reports both to the Commission and to the State-Tribal Relations Committee of the interim legislature. Although the Committee was granted no authority by the bill or the rules to interpret or amend contracts or withhold funding disbursements pending any course corrections required, it did consult closely with the Program Director in the Commission and held several hearings that included program updates, both in Helena and at various reservations. These updates occurred on a quarterly basis.



Traditions remembered and honored



cansasa



court honoring

The tribal government of each reservation as well as the State-recognized Little Shell applied for and received an equal portion of the total \$2 million appropriation that came with SB 342. The pilots were as follows:

Little Shell

Pilot title: *Preserving La Lawng Michif, Chippewa, and Cree Languages in Montana: The Little Shell's Traditional Historic Languages*

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Pilot title: *SPCC Intensive Salish Language Program*

Pilot title: *Kootenai Language Curriculum Project*

Crow Nation

Pilot title: *Apsaalooke Ammalaau*

Chippewa Cree Tribe (Rocky Boys)

Pilot title: *Chippewa Cree Tribe Language Preservation Pilot Program*

Fort Peck Tribes

Pilot title: *Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes Language Preservation Project*

Blackfeet

Pilot title: *Blackfeet Indian Language Preservation Program*

Northern Cheyenne

Pilot title: *Northern Cheyenne Language Preservation Project Pilot Program*

Fort Belknap

Pilot title: *AANIIH and Nakoda Language is Healing Preservation Program*

SB 342 designated the Montana Historical Society as the ultimate repository of all deliverables produced by the language preservation program, thus making these materials available to the larger public as provided for in the signed agreements and contracts.

The Deliverables

SB 342 required the development of audio and visual recordings, dictionaries and other reference materials, and curricula. The pilots did this—and much more. By not being overly prescriptive, the legislation allowed ingenuity and the initiatives most valued by the participants to flourish. As one announcement from the Department of Commerce noted, “A common theme throughout the projects is a connection between generations, language mastery in the family unit, thresholds of language fluency for teachers, an increased awareness and exposure of indigenous ways of knowing and being, and utilizing technology to teach native languages.”⁶

Little Shell Tribe (LST)

- Language Survey
- Research and Fieldwork in Canada
- Collect Internet Documents for LST
- Collect and Document Linguists List
- Categorize Resource Materials
- Produce Language Curriculum
- Establish Language Archive
- Language and Culture Filming of LST
- Purchase of Language Resources
- Purchase Filming Equipment
- Develop Plan for Teaching with TMCC
- Develop Language Program Curriculum

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

- Intensive Language Instruction Program (Salish)
- Develop Language Commission (Salish)
- Updating Class Teacher Assessment (Salish)
- Language Curriculum Guide (Kootenai)

⁶ “Governor Bullock Announces Tribal Language Preservation Efforts”, Wednesday, November 06, 2013. <http://commerce.mt.gov/content/news/Governor%20Bullock%20Announces%20Tribal%20Language%20Preservation%20Efforts>.

- Language Fluency Survey (Kootenai)

Crow Nation

- Language Survey
- Reenactment Video/Historical Sites
- Language Website
- Story Teller Video from Circles
- Mobile Application

Chippewa Cree Tribe (Rocky Boys)

- Language Survey
- Language Product Development
- Language Learning/Product Testing

Fort Peck Tribes

- Language Booklets
- Vocabulary Dictionary
- Multi-Level Language Curriculum
- Recorded History in Language

Blackfeet

- Interactive Webpage
- Teach the Teacher Workshops
- Test Curriculum in Community for Feedback
- Qualitative /Quantitative Methods of Evaluation for Fluency
- 40 E-Lessons (filmed)
- Language Teacher Training at BPS
- K-6 Blackfeet Language Curriculum
- 12 Road Signs in Blackfeet
- Record Storytelling for Children's Book
- Promote Blackfeet Language via Media
- Immersion Youth Camp
- Record Mentoring Sessions
- Document Loss of Language

Northern Cheyenne

- Interactive Dictionary Application
- Pre K-12 TPR Curriculum
- Curriculum for CDKC Class 7 Teachers
- Ethnobotany Language Application
- Immersion Camp Curriculum
- Video Recordings of Camp

- Video Recordings of Language Classes

Fort Belknap

- Annotated Bibliography (AANIIH / Gros Ventre)
- Updated Class 7 Standards for Certification (GV)
- Record Talking Dictionary (GV)
- Record Sign Language (GV)
- Record Language Classes in Community (GV)
- Annotated Bibliography (Nakoda)
- Updated Class 7 Standards for Certification (Nakoda)
- Record Talking Dictionary (Nakoda)
- Record Sign Language (Nakoda)
- Record of Language Classes in Community (Nakoda)



discussing hanpa (moccasins in Dakota Sioux)



language camp activities

The Performance to Date

As of the writing of this report, all eight of the pilot projects are compliant in terms of adherence to project purposes (the scope of work identified in their applications and agreements), adherence to funding parameters, and adherence to timeframes. In reaching their current status, most of these pilots overcame a slow start and sizeable learning curve.

As is indicated in the quarterly reports (Appendices B through E), the typical trajectory of the pilots' progress was: "started slow, came from behind, and got caught up". Given the mid-to-late November 2013 release of the first tranche of funding, most of the pilots could point to little concrete activity in their first quarterly report. In the first and second quarter reports, only a couple of pilots were meeting their milestones in terms of intended "percent completion" attached to specific activities. There were also issues regarding the clarity of reporting that were still getting straightened out.

Finally there was a lot to learn, both in terms of internal process and the subject matter itself. The advisory boards had to navigate their tribal councils, fiscal offices, and academic and cultural departments to get activities running in sync with state requirements and the

contracted fund disbursement cycles. Also, they were often navigating untrodden ground: the rescue and restoration of their languages through family, school, and community milieus. The learning curve reflected the fact that this was new, and that these were indeed **pilots**.

However, the third and fourth quarter reports clearly show the processes, production, and reporting all falling into place. As of early September 2014, the aggregate completion rate stood at 91% across all of the intended deliverables. All of the pilots provided to the Montana Historical Society all the products that they had completed as of September 15. The State-Tribal Relations Committee's last meeting was September 10 and the legislative interim ended September 15, in accordance with Legislative Council rules.

In order to sustain the momentum that the program had generated, the Department amended its contracts with each tribe, providing a later date still of January 15, 2015, for the final submission of materials to the Montana Historical Society and a later date of February 15 as the final date by which to request reimbursement for costs incurred under the projects. As provided for in SB 342, all unencumbered funds revert to the General Fund on June 30, 2015.

Unktomi storytelling ('Trickster' fables of the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota Sioux tribes)



Location: Tribal Park east of the Museum of the Plains Indian Hwy 2 & 89



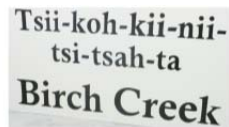
Location: Hwy 89 east of Two Medicine Bridge across from Historical Sign



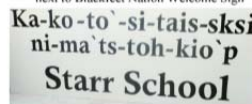
Location: Hwy 2 South of East Glacier next to Blackfeet Nation Welcome Sign



Location: Hwy 89 South of St. Mary at developing historical turnout



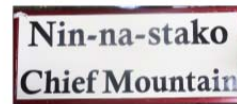
Location: Hwy 89 north of Birch Creek Bridge next to Blackfeet Nation Welcome Sign



Location: North of School Building at Starr School, southside of Route 8



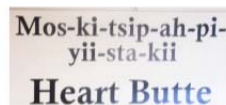
Location: Next to historical signs on Route 4



Location: Hwy 89 South border crossing next to Blackfeet Nation Welcome Sign



Location: In the community of Blackfoot Next to playground



Location: North of Route 1, east side of Heart Butte Round Hall

New signage in Blackfeet country

APPENDIX A
SENATE BILL NO. 342

2013 Montana Legislature



SENATE BILL NO. 342

INTRODUCED BY WINDY BOY, HANSEN

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MONTANA INDIAN LANGUAGE PRESERVATION PILOT PROGRAM; PROVIDING A PROGRAM DESCRIPTION; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE.

WHEREAS, Montana is committed in its educational goals to the preservation of American Indian cultural integrity; and

WHEREAS, language in the form of spoken, written, or sign language is foundational to cultural integrity; and

WHEREAS, Montana tribal languages are in a time of crisis through the loss of native speakers, writers, and signers; and

WHEREAS, the tribes and the state have resources, such as the tribal colleges, councils, and historic preservation offices and the state universities, historical society, and library, to preserve and protect Montana tribal languages for this and future generations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Montana Indian language preservation pilot program. (1) There is a Montana Indian language pilot preservation program. The program is established to support efforts of Montana tribes to preserve Indian languages in the form of spoken, written, or sign language and to assist in the preservation and curricular goals of Indian education for all pursuant to Article X, section 1(2), of the Montana constitution and Title 20, chapter 1, part 5.

(2) (a) The state-tribal economic development commission established in 90-1-131 shall administer the program and, in collaboration with the Montana historical society, Montana public television organizations, the state director of Indian affairs, and each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and the Little Shell Chippewa tribe, shall adopt program rules by July 31, 2013.

(b) The program rules must address performance and output standards, distribution of funds, accounting of funds, and use of funds.

(c) The performance and output standards must include:

(i) development of audio and visual recordings;

(ii) creation of dictionaries and other reference materials, including audio, visual, electronic, or written dictionaries; and

(iii) creation and publication of curricula, which may include electronic curricula.

(d) The performance and output standards may include:

(i) language classes;

(ii) language immersion camps;

(iii) storytelling; and

(iv) publication of literature.

(3) By September 15, 2014, at least two copies of any tangible goods produced under this section, including but not limited to audio or visual recordings, literature, dictionaries, or other publications, must be submitted to the Montana historical society for the benefit of related language preservation efforts and for preservation and archival purposes.

(4) Tribal governments receiving program funds shall form local program advisory boards. Members of a local program advisory board may include but are not limited to representatives from any of the entities listed in subsection (6). Each local program advisory board shall work with college tribal language instructors and individuals who evaluate applicants for licensure as a class 7 American Indian language and culture specialist to develop and adopt measurable and specific outcome requirements for their respective language preservation programs.

(5) (a) Each local program advisory board shall provide reports on expenditures of grant funds, overall program progress, and other criteria determined by the state-tribal economic development commission pursuant to subsection (2)(a) to the state-tribal relations committee at each meeting during the interim.

(b) The state-tribal relations committee shall report any findings, comments, or recommendations regarding each local program and the Montana Indian language preservation pilot program to the 64th legislature.

(6) Tribal governments are encouraged to maximize the impact of grant funds by forming partnerships among state and tribal entities and leveraging existing resources for the preservation of Indian languages and the education of all Montanans in a way that honors the cultural integrity of American Indians. Suggested partner entities include but are not limited to:

(a) the governor's office of Indian affairs;

(b) school districts located on reservations;

(c) tribal colleges;

(d) tribal historic preservation offices;

(e) tribal language and cultural programs;

(f) units of the Montana university system;

(g) the Montana historical society;

(h) the office of public instruction;

(i) Montana public television organizations;

(j) school districts not located on reservations; and

(k) the Montana state library.

(7) State entities that operate film and video studios and equipment shall cooperate with each local tribal preservation program in the production of materials for preservation and archival purposes.

(8) Any cultural and intellectual property rights from program efforts belong to the tribe. Use of the cultural and intellectual property may be negotiated between the tribe and other partnering entities.

Section 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the state general fund to the state-tribal economic development commission \$1 million in each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2013, for the purposes described in [section 1]. Any remaining funds that are unencumbered as of June 30, 2015, must revert to the general fund.

Section 3. Notification to tribal governments. The secretary of state shall send a copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell Chippewa tribe.

Section 4. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 20, chapter 9, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 9, apply to [section 1].

Section 5. Coordination instruction. If both House Bill No. 2 and [this act] are passed and approved and if House Bill No. 2 contains an appropriation for native language preservation, then [section 2 of this act] is void.

Section 6. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

Section 7. Termination. [This act] terminates June 30, 2015.

- END -

APPENDIX B
SUMMARY OF FIRST QUARTER PILOT REPORTS

STR Staff Notes on First Quarter Reports for Montana Indian Language Preservation Projects

Prepared by Casey A. Barrs
Legislative Analyst, Legislative Services Division
January 2014

Crow

Project Name: *Apsaalooke Ammalaau*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project appears in compliance thus far.*
- One project component from the Agreement was inadvertently left out of this quarterly report. It is “(e) Develop an Apsaalooke language website”. The project contact confirms that this component is still part of the project.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project appears in compliance thus far.*
- As regards “(e) Develop an Apsaalooke language website”: They have hired a contractor who has been working on the website for 3 weeks. They estimate that this component is now “50% complete.”
- After this report was filed, progress was made on “(c) Storytelling Circle by elder mentors”. They have identified the elders who will participate and they estimate that this component is now “20% complete.”

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project appears in compliance thus far.*

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- .

Blackfeet

Project Name: *Blackfeet Indian Language Preservation Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project appears in compliance thus far* (in that there has been no suggestion of altering its scope).

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: Most activities are 1-4 months behind the Agreement's implementation schedule (Appendix B).
- The detailed narrative portion of the report primarily cited meetings that had taken place and little in the way of substantive progress.
- One of the project leaders writes, as of December 9: "At this point in the project we have not expended any funds to date... We are currently slightly behind our schedule as it states in the proposal. However it is believed that we can overcome this lost time and remain in schedule for the remainder of the project."

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: None of the allotted \$250,000 has been spent thus far, making any assessment of compliance impossible.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- *The pace of activity in this first quarter is cause for concern.*

Fort Belknap

Project Name: *Fort Belknap Indian Community Language Preservation Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: With no activities yet having taken place, it is impossible to evaluate if the project is adhering to its original purposes. The project contact, however, states that it is their intent to implement the five components of the Scope of Work as described in the Agreement. That contact person has just been replaced by another.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is significantly behind schedule.*
- The project has five components. One of the components is described as "5% complete" and the rest as "0% complete".
- The project Application states on p. 6 that, "This project will start January 2014." But the project Agreement's Implementation Schedule (Appendix B) calls for various activities during October through December of 2013 as well. This contradiction and the delay in starting this project were explained by the contact as being the result of November elections that resulted in new leadership and internal disagreements about the priority of this project and about the personnel who should run it.
- The MLP3 advisory board (referred to locally as the Language Preservation Committee) appears to be in the process of asking the Department of Commerce for an amendment to its timeline. The contact feels confident that with a boost of FTE this project can get back on schedule.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: None of the allotted \$250,000 has been spent thus far, making any assessment of compliance impossible.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- *The pace of activity in this first quarter is cause for concern.*

Fort Peck

Project Name: *Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes Language Preservation Project*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: The report states that the project advisory board might amend the project purpose / scope of work as regards one of its four central activities, described as “(b) Develop Nakona and Dakota vocabulary dictionaries”. The report notes that some dictionaries already exist, and the project contact adds that the board feels that hard-copy dictionaries might not be the best avenue for disseminating the languages. The board will discuss possible “technology applications” instead at its next meeting on January 23. Any desired amendments to the Agreement must be discussed with the MT Department of Commerce.
- STR Staff Observation: The Scope of Work in the quarterly report (as well as the Scope of Work in the Agreement) lacks some clarity and transparency. The SOWs do not mention the planned “Language Immersion Camps” which constitute about one-third of this project’s entire budget. These camps are instead described in an appendix to the Agreement and also in the original Application. When asked how/where these immersion camps fit in the SOW per se, the contact stated that the benefit of the camps is “infused throughout” all the components of work—generating information for the language booklets, dictionaries, school curricula, and elder histories. (Staff note: Perhaps the only way to track progress on the Language Immersion Camps is under the “Project Sources and Uses of Funds” line item under the same name. \$83,432 has been allotted for that line item and \$0 expended to date.)

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project appears significantly behind schedule.*
- Report states that the project’s “advisory board didn’t get passed in [tribal] council until mid-November.” Tribal elections last fall contributed to this delay.
- The project contact acknowledges they are behind schedule but states that they are working hard to catch up.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation:
- Only \$500 of possible \$229,100 has been spent thus far, making any assessment of compliance impossible.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- *The pace of activity in this first quarter is cause for concern.*

Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

Project Name: *SPCC Intensive Salish Language Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project appears in compliance thus far, albeit with one amendment.*
- The report states that it is modifying the number of months for classes from 12 to 9 “due to delays in receiving funding from the state and the... CSKT personnel regulations for establishing new positions.” The tribe will seek other nongrant money to enable instruction for the 12 months originally envisioned (thus instruction would continue beyond the September 2014 deadline through to December).
- The cost savings from the above change allows them to increase the number of language apprentices from four to five.
- The Salish language project is accompanied by an impressive level of detail and documentation. The Kootenai language project has no accompanying documentation or detailed narrative to date.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation:
- The report indicates “0% completion” for the Kootenai language project and “10% completion” for the Salish language project.
- No activities are yet indicated in the Implementation Schedule for the Kootenai language project.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: None of the allotted \$250,000 has been spent thus far, making any assessment of compliance impossible.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- .

Northern Cheyenne

Project Name: *Northern Cheyenne Language Preservation Project Pilot Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: The purposes of this project were unclearly expressed and are being unclearly reported.
- For example, the Scope of Work lists four main components.
 - The first two are (1) Preserve and protect the language through perpetuity, and (2) rescue the language and culture from extinction. The words preserve, protect, and rescue are indistinguishable and more importantly are immeasurable. Asking for a “percent complete” for these overarching objectives is a misleading

exercise. Nor does there appear to have been any attempt to link/correlate those overarching objectives back to the project's activities.

- The next component is (3) Fulfill the contractual obligations with the State of Montana. This should not be listed as a substantive goal: such compliance is assumed and expected by signing the Agreement. The final component is (4) Produce fluent speakers and proficient writers. There is no indication anywhere in the report, the contract, or the initial Agreement of a target number for *how many* such speakers and writers are expected. When asked, the project contact stated that the goal is “30 more persons” who are fluent in speaking and proficient in writing as measured by being credentialed by the Office of Public Instruction. This accountability measure does not appear to be written anywhere.
- The more tangible deliverables are found in Sec. 11 of the report, “Implementation Schedule”. But even in this schedule of activities there is no mention of one big-ticket item: the “mobile dictionary application”.
- STR staff has spoken with the Department of Commerce’s MILP3 program oversight person about the formulation and reporting of this project’s objectives.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is significantly behind schedule*
- The report indicates “1% completed” for each of the four main components in the project’s Scope of Work.
- It cannot be ascertained from this quarterly report what, if anything, has actually been done so far. *There is no narrative.* There is only the checking of boxes for the implementation schedule—which differs considerably from the schedule milestones set forth in the Agreement (Appendix B).
- The project contact says the late start is partly attributable to having received state funding only in November. I have asked the Department of Commerce’s MILP3 program oversight person about this and am awaiting reply.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation:
- Only \$5,625 of possible \$250,000 has been spent thus far, making any assessment of compliance impossible.
- Adult immersion camp:
 - \$40,000 for a 2-week camp? Can this be better itemized so we can understand how this comes to \$50K?
 - What enduring deliverable will emerge from a 2-week camp? [Agreement says the “goals of the immersion camp are acquisition of the Cheyenne language, appreciation and enjoyment.”]
 - Why does narrative for the camp in the application include: “Every effort must be made to include adult-to-adult conflicts and feuds. A mediation process for such feuds must be established.”
- \$5,000 on preserving and restoring artifacts recovered under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). STR staff has asked the Department of Commerce’s MILP3 program oversight person how this fits under the legislation enacting tribal language preservation.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation: This project appears to need swift intervention from Department of Commerce’s MILP3 program oversight person.

Little Shell

Project Name: *Preserving La Lawng Michif, Chippewa, and Cree Languages in Montana: The Little Shell’s Traditional Historic Languages*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project appears in compliance thus far*
- There is detailed narrative for each of the 12 components of the project.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project appears in compliance thus far*
- The 12 project components are, on average, 11.25 % completed. Clearly the remaining quarters will be quite busy.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: None of the project’s allotted \$250,000 has yet been spent. The project contact notes this in a cover letter, stating, “As you will see, we have not yet expended any monies. But we are just about to purchase equipment and cover salaries for support staff first pay period. So, we’re rolling now.” Although the lack of any expensing thus far might at first seem to be a cause for concern, the report’s detailed narrative clearly shows that activity has been occurring on a number of fronts (and much of that has been in the nature of charting the waters and forming collaborative relationships—not actions that necessarily incur expense other than FTE pay).

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

-

Rocky Boys

Project Name: *Chippewa Cree Tribe Language Preservation Pilot Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project appears in compliance thus far*
- There is reasonably detailed narrative for each of the 16 scheduled activities of the project.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: Most activities are 1-2 months behind the Agreement’s implementation schedule (Appendix B).

- The designation of two hires as “temporary” and of two others as still “pending” could be cause for concern.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: Only \$1,200 of possible \$250,000 has been spent thus far, making any assessment of compliance impossible.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- .

APPENDIX C
SUMMARY OF SECOND QUARTER PILOT REPORTS

STR Staff Notes on Second Quarter Reports for Montana Indian Language Preservation Projects

Prepared by Casey A. Barrs
Legislative Analyst, Legislative Services Division
January 2014

Crow

Project Name: *Apsaalooke Ammalaau*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- In the first quarter report, one project component from the Agreement was left out. It is “(e) Develop an Apsaalooke language website”. The project contact reported at the time that this component is still part of the project and that it was 50% complete. But there again is no mention of any language website as a component of the project in the second quarterly report. (In Sec.9 (p.3) there is a brief reference to spending \$2,950 on “website and recording of storytelling circles”.)
 - The STEDC Director reports that the Apsaalooke language website will indeed be implemented and that it will house the district mapping of clans and their fluency, survey results, and at the very least the edited videos of the district storytelling recordings.
 - The Crow project staff are requested to explicitly report the status of this project component in the next quarterly report.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- Activity (a) shows good progress between quarters (going from 0% to 75%) with good supporting narrative.
- Activity (b) states progress between quarters (going from 0% to 15%) with good supporting narrative.
- Activity (c) states great progress between quarters (going from 20% to 98%). The last storytelling circle was conducted on April 2; all of the circles have been completed. The circles were videoed and staff is now in the process of editing the footage.
- Activity (d) is the “technological application for learning conversational Crow”. The first quarter report stated this component was 50% complete—but this quarter’s report now has it 20% finished. The explanation is that last December the staff had several conversations with the mobile app vendor and sent their finance office a check for 50% of the vendor’s contract. But the finance department has yet to cut that check for the vendor. Last week they reported that they were closer to getting the situation resolved.
- Activity (e): same point as above: the development of an Apsaalooke language website is not mentioned in the report.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- .

Blackfeet

Project Name: *Blackfeet Indian Language Preservation Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- *Component (a) Blackfeet Community College:* This component shows steady progress (going from 20% complete last quarter to 45% this quarter). It is supported by strong narrative and documentation.
- *Component (b) Browning Public School District #9:* This component is the slowest of the four (going from 5% to 10%). Staff explains that the slow pace results from “not recognizing that teachers are teaching all day and have limited evening time to do the book translation portion of the project.” They will do so in June. This will result in a modification of their timeline with the third language workshop’s “pre-orientation” (??) occurring in August.
- *Component (c) Blackfeet Language Advisory Board:* This component also shows steady progress (going from 20% complete last quarter to 50% this quarter). It is supported by strong narrative and documentation.
- *Component (d) Kanaitapiwa Center:* This component appears to be on pace given that much of the activity is slated for summer.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- The project has spent less than one-seventh of its \$250,000 grant, but many funds are already encumbered for their intended purposes.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Fort Belknap

Project Name: *Fort Belknap Indian Community Language Preservation Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far*, in that all the original project components within the original Scope of Work are being pursued, albeit in various stages of progress.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed on schedule—but with considerable work remaining in the 5 months remaining.*
- *Component (a) Annotated bibliography:* This component shows reasonable progress (going from 5% complete last quarter to 25% this quarter) and supporting narrative.
 - Note: The original Agreement aimed for “a total of 320 works for review, analysis, and summary” to comprise this bibliography. The current report does not indicate how many such items are currently “in the pipeline”. In order to be able to assess if the pilot is on a viable pace given its remaining time frame, the number of works produced should be specified in each remaining quarterly report.
- *Component (b) Class 7 Standards revision:* This component states reasonable progress (going from 0% complete last quarter to 25% this quarter). Staff have thus far been reviewing the "Montana Standards for World Languages", an 11-page guide produced by OPI.
- *Component (c) Talking Dictionary:* This component states reasonable progress (going from 0% complete last quarter to 25% this quarter).
 - Note: STEDC staff states that the Gros Ventres intend to have elders/speakers take turns saying aloud 11,000 words. The current report does not indicate how many words have been recorded thus far. In order to be able to assess if the pilot is on a viable pace given its remaining timeframe, the number of words captured should be specified in each remaining quarterly report.
 - Note: In a similar vein, it would be interesting (if not essential) to know the pilot’s baseline goal in its plan to “record elders in outlying communities”. How many individuals from how many segments/communities of the populace need to be recorded in order to arrive at a linguistically authentic, academically sound sampling? How many individuals have been recorded thus far for the talking dictionary and the sign language components?
- *Component (d) Sign Language:* This component shows progress (going from 0% complete last quarter to 25% this quarter).
- *Component (e) DVDs of Community Classes:* This component states reasonable progress (going from 0% complete last quarter to 25% this quarter).
 - Note: The pilot’s documents state that these DVDs are slated for “distribution to homes for review” but do not indicate how widespread that distribution will be. In order to be able to assess if the pilot will be on target near the end of this component, a target needs to be set.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

-

Fort Peck

Project Name: *Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes Language Preservation Project*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *The project is in compliance thus far.*
- *Component (a) Nakona and Dakota language booklet.*
- *Component (b) Nakona and Dakota Vocabulary/Visual Dictionaries:* Note: The actual number of dictionaries to be produced is yet to be decided.
- *Component (c) Nakona and Dakota school curricula.*
- *Component (d) Nakona and Dakota histories.*
- Note: Another important feature of the Fort Peck pilot will be Language Immersion Camps. The intent is to have the camps enriched with the tools and products cited above. If those tools and products are not complete by the time the camps begin, then existing curricula will be used.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- *Component (a) Nakona and Dakota language booklet:* This component shows strong progress (going from 10% complete last quarter to 50% this quarter). The supporting narrative is more detailed than in the preceding report.
- *Component (b) Nakona and Dakota Vocabulary Dictionaries:* This component shows some progress (going from 0% complete last quarter to 15% this quarter) and supporting narrative.
 - Action items have been reported here in the future tense: please note that this section should include only those activities “completed to date”.
- *Component (c) Nakona and Dakota school curricula:* This component shows nominal progress (going from 10% complete last quarter to 15% this quarter) and some narrative.
 - Action items have all been reported here in the future tense: please note that this section should include only those activities “completed to date”. STRC and STEDC staff will discuss this further.
- *Component (d) Nakona and Dakota histories:* This component states some progress (going from 0% complete last quarter to 15% this quarter) and supporting narrative.
 - Action items have been reported here in the future tense: please note that this section should include only those activities “completed to date”. STRC and STEDC staff will discuss this further.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *The project is assessed in compliance thus far, with the following caveats.*
 - The overall project has spent only about one-seventh of its total grant.
 - Project staff did not provide STRIC staff vouchers as requested.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- *The pace of activity in this first two quarters is cause for concern.* As noted above, many of the tasks are stated in the future tense (“will”). The Agreement signed in October of 2013 projected activity in each of the four components in every month from October onward. However, the two quarterlies provided since that time indicate no activity for most of the components in most of the months since the Agreement was signed.

Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

Project Name: *SPCC Intensive Salish Language Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Kootenai and Salish components are assessed in compliance thus far* in that they are still focused on the original tasks agreed to.
- Some confusion is created by having one quarterly report for the Kootenai and Salish projects together—and then another one for them separately. The two do not format and word their activities in an entirely congruent manner. STRC staff found it most useful to view the two projects separately.
- Kootenai component: The more the various sections of a single report can use a parallel structure that identifies activities in the same way, the easier it is to follow.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Kootenai and Salish components are assessed in compliance thus far.*
- STR Staff Observation: Hopefully the following outline accurately captures the dual arrangement of work for the Kootenai project component:
- **“Kootenai Language curriculum Project”**
 - Kootenai (1) *Curriculum Guide*: The report states steady progress (going from 0% complete last quarter to 50% this quarter). The narrative that accompanies it does not very clearly itemize activities done and yet to be done in a way that makes that “50%” understandable. This might be a difficult undertaking given the 40 draft lessons involved—but hopefully it will be outlined with more clarity in future quarterly reports.
 - Kootenai (1a) Curriculum modification
 - Kootenai (1b) Fluent speaker CD recordings
 - Kootenai (1c) Storybook
 - Kootenai (2) *Language survey*: The report states steady progress (going from 0% complete last quarter to 75% this quarter). The narrative states that the survey was developed in the first quarter and has been actively disseminated for the last 3 months.
- **“Intensive Salish Language Program”**
 - STR Staff Observation: Each of the following activities is clearly supported with narrative and other documentation.
 - Salish (1) *Intensive Salish Instruction for Adult Learners*: The report shows steady progress (going from 10% complete last quarter to 35% this quarter).

- Salish (2) *Language Commission*: The report shows steady progress (going from 10% complete last quarter to 35% this quarter).
- Salish (3) *Class 7 Certification*: The report shows steady progress (going from 10% complete last quarter to 40% this quarter).

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *The Kootenai component is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- **“Kootenai Language curriculum Project”**
 - About one-fourth of the grant of \$125,000 has been expensed to date. Narrative states that “budget expenditures” and that “the majority of the costs will be incurred in the third and fourth quarter of the project.”
 - Project staff did not provide STRIC staff vouchers as requested.
- **“Intensive Salish Language Program”**
 - STR Staff Observation: *The Salish component is assessed in compliance thus far*
 - \$33,000 of the \$125,000 for the Salish component, or about one-fourth, has been expended.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Northern Cheyenne

Project Name: *Northern Cheyenne Language Preservation Project Pilot Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- STR Staff Observation: The purposes and pieces of this project are much more clearly expressed and reported in this quarterly report. The intended project as described in the original application and the Scope of Work as depicted in the first quarterly report were worded quite differently, but the seven (a→e) components expressed and reported in the current quarterly appear to faithfully capture the original project purposes.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- The new narrative attached to the Implementation is very informative and indicated that a number of the anticipated 23 activities are already complete.
- It will also help if project staff marks the boxes to the right of that narrative; none of them are checked in the current report.
- All of the following components have shown substantial increases from the stated “1% complete” in the first quarter report:
 - *Component (a)* Dictionary App: 40% complete.
 - *Component (b)*: Plant Terminology App: 90% complete
 - *Component (c)*: Two-week Immersion Camp: 50% complete
 - *Component (d)*: Class 7 Certification: 45% complete
 - *Component (e)*: Video Recording (of Camp): 15% complete

- *Component (f):* Video Recording of Language Class (at Camp): 25% complete
- *Component (g):* Multi-Level Language Curriculum: 20%

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- There is useful supportive narrative in Section 9 Use of Funds.
- Cautionary note: The project has spent only about one-seventh (\$36,252) of its total grant (\$250,000).

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation: This project is on solid footing—the efforts of project staff and the Director of the State-Tribal Economic Development Commission have paid off.

Little Shell

Project Name: *Preserving La Lawng Michif, Chippewa, and Cree Languages in Montana: The Little Shell’s Traditional Historic Languages*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.* The purposes described in this report follow precisely from the original documents.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- **STR Staff Observation:** *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- The multiple project components are, on average, 50.4 % completed.
- The narrative for the Project Implementation Schedule is detailed.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
-
- Project staff did not provide STRIC staff vouchers as requested.
- There is useful supportive narrative in Section 9 Use of Funds.
- The project has spent only about one-sixth (\$42,122) of its total grant (\$250,000). The narrative explains how and when the remaining expenditures will take place.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

-

Rocky Boys

Project Name: *Chippewa Cree Tribe Language Preservation Pilot Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*

- (b) *Phase 2*: Develop digital dictionary application and interactive website: More information has helped depict the purpose of this component: The staff have been updating an existing dictionary of about 6,000 words. The written aspect of the dictionary may be done in the final week of April, then speakers will be recorded saying each word. Additionally, the interactive website will have a series of "lessons" that can be selected to help teach learners words by category like kinship, seasons, plants, etc. These lessons will have current photos from the community that depict the Cree word.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far* *
- * STR Staff Observation: Most of the narrative in the Sec. 11 Project Implementation Schedule was copied and pasted from the first quarterly report. Although this is to be expected for activities that might not have seen noteworthy movement, others have seen action and these narrative boxes are an opportunity to explain any challenges and accomplishments of the preceding 3 months.
- * STR Staff Observation: Unlike most of the other MILP3 pilots that largely have components that can be implemented concurrently, the CCT Language Preservation Pilot has three distinct and sequential phases. The third phase (that of language learning opportunities for at least 16 individuals) is to be launched on 09/15/14 (page 15 of Application) but it cannot be conducted until the first two phases are complete. Several activities are behind schedule, however (and this may be attributable to the compressed timeframe of MILP3 as a whole). However, the STEDC Director has worked with pilot staff on a new timeline and feels assured that the components of Phase Three will be implemented on time and that there will be feedback on that phase by 09/15/14.
- (a) *Phase 1*: Research and Record Cree Language: This component states steady progress (going from 25% complete last quarter to 80% this quarter). Staff have conducted 322 surveys thus far, with their target being 600 (which is 10% of membership).
- (b) *Phase 2*: Develop digital dictionary application and interactive website: This component states progress (from 5% complete to 25% this quarter).
- (c) *Phase 3*: Pilot learning opportunities for at least 16 individuals: Staff did not state a "% complete" in this report, but they have begun to identify potential participants / recipients.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far*, though the reporting on funds is not transparent.*
- * STR Staff Observation: No budget narrative was provided. Staff are kindly requested to enter some in the next quarterly report.
- * STR Staff Observation: The "Amount expensed" column was left blank except for the subtotals. Without itemization within each block subtotaled, and without vouchers being attached to this report, it is difficult to break out what the money was spent on.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

APPENDIX D
SUMMARY OF THIRD QUARTER PILOT REPORTS

NOTE: Only those third quarter reports that were received and reviewed in time to be incorporated into the summary at the time are included in Appendix D.

STR Staff Notes on Third Quarter Reports for Montana Indian Language Preservation Projects

Prepared by Casey A. Barrs
Legislative Analyst, Legislative Services Division
January 2014

Blackfeet

Project Name: *Blackfeet Indian Language Preservation Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- *Component (a) Blackfeet Community College:* This component shows steady progress (going from 45% complete last quarter to 75% this quarter). It is supported by strong narrative and documentation. The interactive web page has come on line.
- *Component (b) Browning Public School District #9:* The pace of this component has picked up (going from 10% to 55% complete). Notably, significant progress has been made in the language development curriculum that will be made available to the public. They report a copyright issue that has compelled them to request a budget modification, but this will not affect the number of e-lesson plans to be produced (40).
- *Component (c) Blackfeet Language Advisory Board:* This component also shows steady progress (going from 50% complete last quarter to 75% this quarter). It is supported by strong narrative and documentation. Propelling its progress has been the near-ready installation of Blackfeet highway signs and the movement of the storytelling segment into postproduction.
- *Component (d) Kanaitapiwa Center:* This component is almost finished (going from 50% complete last quarter to 90% this quarter). The youth camp and the segment on the loss of language are now both done.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- The financial reporting is much more detailed now.
- The project has spent almost two-thirds of its \$250,000 grant at the three-quarter point of the project life; an improvement from the less than one-seventh spent at the half-way mark, as noted in the previous quarterly report.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Fort Peck

Project Name: *Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes Language Preservation Project*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *The project is in compliance thus far.*

Adherence to Time Frame:

- *Component (a) Nakona and Dakota language booklet:* This component states progress (going from 50% complete last quarter to 75% this quarter). Both language booklets are now out the door for review by staff, Advisory Board members, and Fort Peck Tribes Education Committee.
 - Clarify: Can I assume #6 and #11 done? They're written in future tense, but the dates mentioned have come and gone.
- *Component (b) Nakona and Dakota Vocabulary Dictionaries:* See below*
- *Component (c) Nakona and Dakota school curricula:* See below*
- *Component (d) Nakona and Dakota histories:* See below*

* Each of these three components states the same degree of progress (from 15% complete last quarter to 45% this quarter). Yet for each component, the majority of action items accompanying the estimates of “percent complete” have been cut and pasted from the last quarterly report and are still written in the future tense (“will be”)—suggesting that the actions have not yet been completed. This does not support the conclusion that these components have moved 30 percentage points ahead toward completion.

* Compounding the concern that this project might be behind in its timeframe is the fact that the Implementation Schedule shows inactivity for many of the activities over the 3 months of this quarter. In contrast, the Agreement signed last year projected action in each activity for each month.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *The project is assessed in compliance.*
- The project has spent \$82,736 of its \$250,000 total grant. Some of those funds may of course already be encumbered or committed. But the difficulty (if not impossibility?) of spending two-thirds of its funds in the remaining one-fourth of the project's lifespan raises concerns about the ability of staff to meet all the project purposes.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Little Shell

Project Name: *Preserving La Lawng Michif, Chippewa, and Cree Languages in Montana: The Little Shell's Traditional Historic Languages*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.* The purposes described in this report follow precisely from the original documents.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- **STR Staff Observation:** *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- Project components (a) through (m) are, on average, 76% completed.
- The narrative for the Project Implementation Schedule is amply detailed.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- Project staff did not provide STRIC staff vouchers as requested.
- The project has spent only \$58,283, or about one-fifth of its total grant of \$250,000. The narrative explains how and when the remaining expenditures will take place.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- Pilot staff have been very responsive to requests for clarification.

Rocky Boys

Project Name: *Chippewa Cree Tribe Language Preservation Pilot Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- The Department of Commerce MILP3 Program Manager approved using personnel cost savings to run a heretofore unplanned 3-day Cree Language Camp in July.
- Pilot staff provided a more detailed narrative in this quarterly report, which proved helpful for monitoring purposes.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.*
- (a) *Phase 1:* Research and Record Cree Language: This component has been completed.
- (b) *Phase 2:* Develop digital dictionary application and interactive website: This component has shown major progress (from 25% complete to 75% this quarter).
- (c) *Phase 3:* Pilot learning opportunities and support. This is the third sequenced phase of the whole pilot. It has progressed (going from 5% complete to 35% complete). Note that the number of adult tribal members/descendants who will participate in this segment was increased from 16 to 25.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance thus far.* The reporting is somewhat more transparent than in the previous quarter.*

- * STR Staff Observation: The “Amount expensed” column now includes dollar figures—this helps break out what the money was spent on.
- REPEAT FROM 2ND QUARTERLY REPORT: * STR Staff Observation: No budget narrative was provided. Staff are again requested to enter some in the next quarterly report.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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APPENDIX E
SUMMARY OF FOURTH QUARTER PILOT REPORTS

STR Staff Notes on Fourth Quarter Reports for Montana Indian Language Preservation Projects

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Rocky Boys

Project Name: *Chippewa Cree Tribe Language Preservation Pilot Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.* It did not deviate from its deliverables.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.*
- (a) *Phase 1: Research and Record Cree Language:* This component has been completed. Survey data will next be analyzed, themes developed, and then sent to the MHS.
- (b) *Phase 2: Develop digital **dictionary application** and **interactive website**:* This component is 90% complete. The dictionary data base was completed in June and the interactive website was finished in August.
 - It is not yet clear when the website will be available for public viewing.
 - Staff still wants to get data from Phase 3 for the learning application. It should be completed by September 15.
- (c) *Phase 3: Pilot learning opportunities and support.* This is the third sequenced phase of the whole pilot. It is 90% complete, up from 35% in the last quarterly report. Completion ceremony for this pilot is slated for the first week of September.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.*
- The project has spent only \$161,012 or 60% of its \$250,000 grant at the fourth-quarter point of the project life. The largest piece of the deficit was in underpayment of the projected personnel costs.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Crow

Project Name: *Apsaalooke Ammalaau*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.* It did not deviate from its deliverables.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.*
- The survey, census, and research component is reported 95% done.
- The reenactment and map of historic sites is reported 95% done.
- The storytelling circle with elders component is reported 99% done.
- The technological application for conversational Crow is reported **25%** done.
 - The application will be completed September 11 and then downloaded for the public on September 25.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.*
- The pilot has spent only \$163,003 or a little more than 60% of its \$250,000 grant at the fourth-quarter point of the project life.
- The largest piece of the deficit was in underpayment of the projected personnel costs (\$60, 937 of its allotted \$85,568).
- Although almost all of the budget line items were underspent, one was overspent—grant administration.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Blackfeet

Project Name: *Blackfeet Indian Language Preservation Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.* Each of the four component parts / subrecipients remained focused on the deliverables promised in the original Scope of Work.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.*
- *Component (a) Blackfeet Community College:* The four activities of the BCC component are reported to be 98% complete. The Beta testing on evaluation methods will be complete by September 15.
- *Component (b) Browning Public School District #9:* The three activities of the School District component are reported to be 95% complete.
- *Component (c) Blackfeet Language Advisory Board:* The three activities of the Advisory Board component are reported to be 95% complete

- *Component (d) Kanaitapiwa Center:* The three activities of the Kanaitapiwa Center component are reported to be 98% complete.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.*
- The pilot has spent \$219,383 of its \$250,000 grant, or approximately 90%. There was very little over or under expensing in any of the line items.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Fort Belknap

Project Name: *Fort Belknap Indian Community Language Preservation Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.* All five of the deliverables promised in the original Scope of Work remained in the project.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed on schedule.*
 - *Component (a) Annotated bibliography:* This inventory is reported complete. It is unclear if they have met their target of 320 items researched.
- *Component (b) Class 7 Standards revision:* The standards have been completed and submitted to the state. The OPI gives credentials to those who pass the tribe’s internal class 7 standards assessments.
- *Component (c) Talking Dictionary:* This component is reported at 80% complete. The Gros Ventres have recorded thousands of words. Their biggest task now is getting the saved audio files to link with the spreadsheet that they are using. Timing is the issue; there are no technical problems.
- *Component (d) Sign Language:* This component is reported at 90% complete.
- *Component (e) DVDs of Community Classes:* This component is reported complete. Distribution to homes for viewing will begin after September 15.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.*
- The pilot has spent only \$120,234 of its \$250,000 grant, or a little less than half.
 - NOTE: The Nakoda are behind in identifying the exact amount of expenses and are waiting for final numbers through their tribal accounting/finance office.
 - NOTE: With newly contracted extension of time, the tribes will have the opportunity to use more of the unspent funds.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Fort Peck

Project Name: *Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes Language Preservation Project*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.* All four of the deliverables promised in the original Scope of Work remained in the project.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed on schedule.*
- *Component (a) Nakona and Dakota language booklet:* This component is reported at 100% complete.
- *Component (b) Nakona and Dakota Vocabulary Dictionaries:* This component is reported at 80% complete.
 - The dictionaries are a combination of visuals and vocabulary. Pilot staff report that the words and pictures have all been selected; they are now in the process of publishing.
- *Component (c) Nakona and Dakota school curricula:* This component is reported at 85% complete. The report states twice that the curricula will be completed and ready for distribution in September.
- *Component (d) Nakona and Dakota histories:* This component is reported at 75% complete. The only remaining task is to burn the project onto disc; pilot staff feel it will be ready by September 15.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *The project is assessed in compliance.*
- The project has spent \$187,500 of its \$250,000 total grant.
- Section 12 Comments: They have moved the Educational Forum to October and ask if they can extend/reserve the \$16,000 line item for that forum until October.
- Section 12 Comments: They “will submit for the final drawdown of \$62,500 to complete projects.”
 - NOTE: With newly contracted extension of time, the preceding two requests are allowable.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

Project Name: *SPCC Intensive Salish Language Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *The Salish project is assessed in compliance* in that it has stayed focused on the three original components agreed to.
- NOTE: The first of three components of the Salish project is entitled “*Intensive Salish Instruction for Adult Learners*”. The original aim was to provide intensive immersion language training for five adults. Due to attrition, that number fell to just three individuals. Given that this was by far the largest of the three components (\$96,000 of the Salish pilot’s \$120,000), this is probably not the outcome they had hoped for. However, the fact that the adult learners became so proficient so quickly and were hired away to teach the language at Nkwusm, while disappointing, also demonstrates the power of MILP3.
- STR Staff Observation: *The Kootenai project is assessed in compliance* in that it has stayed focused on the two original components agreed to. The STEDC Director has been told that the target of 45 lessons has been met and that they are being printed out.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Salish project is assessed in compliance.*
- “Intensive Salish Language Program” has three components;
 - Salish (1) *Intensive Salish Instruction for Adult Learners*: This component is reported as 90% complete.
 - Salish (2) *Language Commission*: This component is reported as 95% complete.
 - Salish (3) *Class 7 Certification*: This component is reported as 95% complete.
- STR Staff Observation: *Kootenai project is assessed in compliance.* It reports that all deliverables will be submitted to the MHS by the deadline.
 - (1) The curriculum guide (with fluent speaker recordings and storybook) is reported 95% complete.
 - (2) The language survey is reported 95% complete.

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *The Salish project is assessed in compliance.*
- “Intensive Salish Language Program”
 - \$93,575 of the \$125,000 for the Salish component, or about three-fourths, has been expended.
- STR Staff Observation: *The Kootenai project is assessed in compliance* *.
 - *The STEDC Director has received their budget, and it indicates that the Kootenai project has spent \$118,000 of its \$125,000 grant.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Northern Cheyenne

Project Name: *Northern Cheyenne Language Preservation Project Pilot Program*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.* All six of the deliverables promised in the original Scope of Work remained in the project

Adherence to Time Frame:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.*
 - *Component (a)* Dictionary App: 95% complete.
 - *Component (b)*: Plant Terminology App: 95% complete
 - *Component (c)*: Two-week Immersion Camp: 100% complete
 - *Component (d)*: Class 7 Certification: 100% complete
 - *Component (e)*: Video Recording (of Camp): 100% complete
 - *Component (f)*: Video Recording of Language Class (at Camp): 100% complete
 - *Component (g)*: Multi-Level Language Curriculum: 95% complete
- Sec 12 Additional Comments: Staff state, “We are on schedule and will have deliverables by the deadline.”

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.*
- The project has spent \$187,500 of its \$250,000 total grant or a little less than 75%. Given that the majority of tasks are 95-100% complete, it looks like about one quarter of this pilot’s budget will remain and then revert to the State General Fund.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

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Little Shell

Project Name: *Preserving La Lawng Michif, Chippewa, and Cree Languages in Montana: The Little Shell’s Traditional Historic Languages*

Adherence to Project Purposes:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.* The 12 purposes described in this report follow precisely from the original documents.

Adherence to Time Frame:

- **STR Staff Observation:** *Project is assessed in compliance.* The reported percent complete is as follows:
 - Language survey: 90%
 - Fieldwork in US & Canada: 100%
 - Internet resources: 100%
 - Listing of linguists: 100%
 - Categorize materials: 90%
 - Produce curriculum materials: 90%
 - Establish an archive: 85%
 - Filming: 100%
 - Purchase resources: 90%

- (No entry here)
- Purchase filming equipment: 100%
- College partnership: 60%
- Language program curriculum: 90%

Adherence to Funding Parameters:

- STR Staff Observation: *Project is assessed in compliance.* The project has spent \$181,000 of its \$250,000 total grant or about 70%.

Other STR Staff Notes/Observation:

- The scope of this project and the professionalism of these reports have been impressive.

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